

# **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

**Brookline, Mass.**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Assessors  
Held on March 9, 2010

The Board convened at 4:00 p.m. on March 9, 2010. Present at the meeting were members of the Board Gary McCabe, Mark Mazur, and Harold Petersen. Deputy Chief Assessor Rachid Belhocine joined the Board for a discussion of abatements, exemptions, and old business.

## **Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2010, were accepted as submitted.

## **Annual Report**

Mr. McCabe shared with the Board a draft copy of material to be included in the town's annual report that concerns the Assessors Division.

## **Warrant Articles**

The Board discussed two proposed warrant articles for the upcoming annual meeting. The first, to be co-sponsored with the Council on Aging, would increase the maximum number of people to be included in the Senior Work-Off Program from 20 to 25 and would increase the maximum amount of the abatement under this program from \$750 to \$1000. The Board voted unanimously to endorse the article. The second article would increase the amount of statutory exemptions as permitted by state law. The Board voted unanimously to endorse this article as well.

## **Residential Exemptions**

The Board reviewed and approved a total of 9 applications for residential exemption for Fiscal Year 2010.

## **Senior Work-off Exemption**

The Board reviewed and approved one Senior Work-off exemption as permitted by Chapter 59, Section 5K of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

## **ATB Abatements**

The Board reviewed and approved one abatement of real estate taxes as arrived at in settlement of an Appellate Tax Board case.

## **Abatements**

The Board reviewed a total of 61 applications for abatement of real estate taxes for Fiscal Year 2010, of which 27 were approved and 34 were denied.

## **Small Business Commercial Exemption**

Mr. McCabe reported to the Board that he had been appointed to a study group on the advantages and disadvantages of adopting a small business commercial exemption as permitted by state law.


## **Abatement Applications**

Mr. McCabe shared with the Board a spreadsheet showing the number of abatements filed on commercial and apartment properties for Fiscal Year 2009 and for Fiscal Year 2010. Abatement applications were filed on 12.3% of such parcels for Fiscal Year 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, at 4:00 p.m.

A true record.

Attest:

  
Harold A. Petersen